GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4984
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
HEPATITIS `B`
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons suffering from Hepatitis in the country as on date;

(b) whether the Government are considering to include Hepatitis-B vaccination in National Programme;

(c) if so, whether private sector have been asked to help in vaccination of Hepatitis-B in various districts of the country; and

(d) if so, the time by which Hepatitis-B vaccination would be covered in the entire country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) As per provisional information available with Central Bureau of health Intelligence, 131798 cases of viral hepatitis were reported in 1999.

(b) to (d): Government of India have decided to introduce Hepatitis B vaccine for infants under the Universal Immunization Programme on Pilot basis. This programme will be implemented in slum areas of 15 metropolitan cities during 2002-03 and 32 districts during 2003-04. The pilot project is supported by the Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization. Professional Organizations will be involved in the pilot activities. Based on the experience gained from the pilot, further expansion of the programme during the Tenth Plan period will be considered.